

Updated: June 7, 2023

Virtual Public Meeting on EPA's East Waterway Cleanup

May 25, 2023 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm PST

Zoom Meeting Transcript

00:00:03 – Jean Balent

Recording is up. I'll begin admitting from the waiting room now.

00:00:08 – Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her)

Thank you.

Good evening, everyone. Welcome. Welcome. Welcome to the US EPA's public meeting on our Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway, part of the Harbor Island Superfund Site. If that's why you're here, you're in the right place. So we'll start the live broadcast at 6pm Pacific Standard Time. So in a few minutes, but we will start right at 6 with the welcome and intros.

My name is Laura Knudsen and I will be your main EPA moderator for tonight's session, so thank you all for being here.

I know a lot of you have already seen Jean Balent, who is our technical support for this evening. So, thank you, Jean. And if you have any questions about Zoom technology, have trouble renaming yourself, audio problems, anything; Jean, is your person.

Thank you for joining us, and we'll be getting started in just a few minutes.

Please note, we also are recording tonight's session, but it's to create a formal transcript for our records. We don't plan to post this full recording on our EPA website. I'll go over that later too, but you still don't have to show your face at any point tonight. If you want to, you can, but no pressure.

We'll begin in just a couple minutes again for those of you who are joining us. Thank you so much and welcome to the US Environmental Protection Agency's public meeting on our Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway Operable Units of the Harbor Island Superfund Site. Thank you so much for joining us, and we will begin in just a couple minutes. We really appreciate you being here tonight, thank you.

Once again, I see we have a few more people joining. Thank you so much for coming tonight. This is our first public meeting, virtual, in English, for the US Environmental Protection Agency's public meetings on the Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway part of the Harbor Island Superfund Site. We will begin in just about one minute, so thank you for those of you who got here a little early to troubleshoot some tech support pieces, appreciate that. And we'll be getting started in just about a minute. My name is Laura Knudsen. I will be the main EPA moderator for this evening's session, so thank you. Thank you for being here.

We have some more folks rolling in, thank you for being on. Thank you so much for joining us. I know we have a few more people rolling in, but since I know we want to spend a lot of our time tonight on the meeting content, and also clarifying questions, and formal public comments, it is

6 o'clock, so I'm going to go ahead and get started with the welcome and introduction portion of tonight's session.

So, good evening. I know we have more people coming in and joining us. We'll have kind of a slow start with our introductions this evening and our welcome, but good evening and welcome to the US Environmental Protection Agency's first public meeting, virtual meeting, on our Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway part of the Harbor Island Superfund Site.

My name is Laura Knudsen, and I will be your main EPA moderator for tonight's session. And we are starting the live broadcast, now.

Please note that this meeting is a bit different than other meetings because there will be a formal commenting portion at the end of this public meeting. EPA is required by law to have a public meeting on a Proposed Plan for cleanup, like this one for the East Waterway Operable Units. Also, please note, that we will be recording, and are currently recording, this meeting tonight to create a formal transcript for our records. But we don't plan to post this full recording on our EPA website because a recording in English and a slide deck of the main presentation, that we'll be providing tonight, in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Khmer are already available and will be made available soon on our website and pre-recordings in Spanish Vietnamese and Khmer of the main presentation content this evening should be available starting tomorrow on our website, and we'll be letting everyone know on our list serve and individually about that too.

And, Nina, if you wouldn't mind putting those resources in the chat that are available currently. The slide decks that are translated. Thank you very much.

And while tonight's meeting will be conducted in English, as I've communicated previously, the translated material that I just mentioned, and Nina is putting into the chat, and that we'll have available the recordings tomorrow, they will be available on our website. And the EPA will have also an in-person public meeting on Saturday, June 3rd at the South Seattle College: Georgetown Campus, Building C, which is located at 6737 Corson Ave S, with live interpretation in Spanish, Khmer, and Vietnamese. And you can drop in with your family, we will have some family activities there, anytime from 11am to 6pm on Saturday, June 3rd, to learn more about the Proposed Plan, see us in person, and also provide public comments in person. We'll also have an option there to provide written comments too, in any language.

During tonight's presentation, feel free to use your mobile device if you want to try it at any time. There's a QR code, you'll see in the upper right-hand corner, and that will take you to EPA's website for the Harbor Island Superfund Site and that's where you will find the most up-to-date information on the East Waterway Proposed Plan and the full text of documents discussed during this session.

And now, I want to take a moment and just honor and acknowledge if there are any tribal members or representatives who are here with us this evening. If you want to raise your hand virtually, in a virtual space, or type something in the chat. I wanted to see, that is, if you do not want to, that is completely fine, but I wanted to give that opportunity. Okay, thank you.

I wanted to also ask and acknowledge if there are any current Congressional or local representatives present tonight. If you do, I would. You're here, and you want to write in the

chat or raise your hands. Be happy to acknowledge you. Okay, I see Jim with King County. Thank you, Jim. Acknowledging you. Thank you for being here. Anyone else? Okay. All right, we're going to go ahead and keep moving.

I do want to introduce our core EPA team this evening, and also our contract support members who are joining us tonight. So, when I call your name, please turn on your camera briefly and wave.

First of all, Ravi Sanga, who is the EPA Remedial Project Manager. The technical lead for the Harbor Island Superfund Site. Thank you, Ravi. Thank you.

Also, Kira Lynch, who is the EPA Region Ten Remedial Cleanup Branch Manager. Hi, Kira.

Dustan Bott, who is the EPA Region Ten Site Cleanup Manager. Thanks, Dustan.

Ravi will be giving the main presentation this evening, but Kira will be leading the clarifying questions, and with the support of the rest of the team I'm introducing tonight.

Elizabeth Allen, who is with the EPA Region Ten too and is providing technical support as our EPA Regional Toxicologist. Thanks, Elizabeth.

Emily Bitlac, who is our, one of our, EPA Region Ten Environmental Justice coordinators. Emily, if you want to come on camera for a moment and wave.

And then Meshach Padilla, who is our EPA Region Ten Community Involvement Coordinator and Press Officer. Thank you, Meshach. He is in charge of all of our sharing tonight, video materials.

Jean Balent, who you have seen already. She's our EPA Environmental Scientist and National Remote Technology Expert. And Jean is your point person for anything that you need technology wise this evening. We'll be talking a little bit more in a second about that.

We also have Nina Poppe, who is an EPA contractor and Environmental Specialist with the firm Dawson, who is providing support tonight and is already entering some resources into the chat.

We also have Camryn Shigaya, who is an EPA contractor with the firm HDR, providing support tonight, too.

So let's go ahead and move to the next slide. Thank you. That's our core team. And me, I'm Laura Knudsen, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, and I'll be the main moderator for tonight.

And so just a little bit of housekeeping tonight. Please note that we are recording this public meeting and that's what we make, prepare, an official transcript of the meeting for our records. And so any personally identifiable information submitted during this webinar may be publicly disclosed in the transcript, such as your name, address, and phone number. So, as a result, please feel free to rename yourself in this virtual space. And if you're listening on the phone, just be aware that if you say your name on the phone that it will be in the transcript, so feel free to remain anonymous if you don't want that.

But if you're in the virtual space, you can hover over your name, as seen in step one on this slide on the left, click on the three dots and you can select rename, and you can rename yourself. So

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if you want to include your name, organization, affiliation, and pronouns, those are all optional but you can do that. And feel free to do that and Jean can help you. Jean can help you if you need help with that. And if you don't want to provide your name or information that's okay, too. Feel free to rename yourself, "no name", and that's how we will refer to you if you ask any clarifying questions or make any formal public comments this evening.

And so now I'm going to hand it off to Jean to go over some basic, but important, Zoom information for this evening.

00:12:38 - Jean Balent

Thank you so much, Laura. As Laura noted, I'll be serving as a technical support staff member for today's live broadcast. My name is Jean Balent, and I'll be here throughout the entire session. Before we get started, I'd like to provide a quick orientation for the controls in the Zoom meeting to make sure that everyone understands how to participate.

I'll start by describing the Zoom controls, which should appear at the bottom of your screen. So, let's take a look at the very bottom left. You'll see a microphone icon, which will allow you to mute or unmute your audio coming directly from your device. Right now, we ask that all participants remain muted. So if you see the microphone icon with a red slash, you're taken care of. Later on, we'll provide instructions on how to unmute, but until that time, we ask you to, again, remain muted.

You're welcome to come on camera by clicking the video icon. That's the second icon from the left, but this is not a requirement.

Moving to the third icon from the left, you can open a list of participants to see who's joining us, but I'll direct you now to the fourth icon from the left, a chat icon. Please feel free to click that and open it up. The chat will be open throughout the entire broadcast, and you can use that to type in messages to report technical issues, or if you'd like to ask a clarifying question, you may submit that in the meeting chat window at any time.

Moving right along, going two more icons to the left. Those of you requiring live closed captions can click on the "CC" or closed caption icon. When you click that button, select the option to show the subtitle, if you'd like to watch the computer-generated captions in English during tonight's meeting.

I'll then move you two more icons over to the right, and for those of you who will be asking to share either verbal or oral comments or asking your questions out loud later on in the session, we'll ask that you indicate your interest by raising your hand virtually in Zoom. You can do that by finding the "Raise Hand" button located under the "Reactions" button. The "Reactions" button tends to look like a smiley face for most Zoom users, so feel free to click that smiley face button now and you should see a clearly labeled "Raise Hand" button. If you can't find that button, I'll be available in the meeting chat to help direct you to it; and for those of you calling in exclusively on the phone line, you may raise your hand by pressing * 9, on your phone keypad.

We'll come back and remind everyone of these instructions later when we reach that segment. But again, if you need anything else, I'm available throughout the entire broadcast. You can send

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me a message in the chat. You can send me an email directly at Balent.Jean@EPA.gov or call me directly on my cell phone, 571-329-1385. Thanks, Laura.

00:15:19 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you, Jean.

Now, before we dive into the main content, and Jean, again, is your person for any technical issue to come up with Zoom or anything tonight, I just want to go over a few shared agreements, so that everyone may have a great experience at tonight's public meeting. I'm sure that I won't really need to refer to these very much, but just first remember to please practice self-care. The main presentation tonight is a little bit long and we realize that. We haven't built in any breaks during the agenda, so please take care of yourself. If you need water or a stretch, please feel free to do that and we'll still be here. That's why we have this same meeting content recorded and other ways for you to provide comments too.

Also, we realize that some information or topics that come up this evening may have a lot of emotion or maybe even some trauma associated with them, and so we just ask that everyone please address the idea mainly, you know, in the clarifying questions section, not the person. And this means treating each other with respect and dignity, and I know we all will.

And additionally for questions this evening, we're about to go into the main presentation in a moment, but feel free to type in clarifying questions on the presentation content at any time during the presentation. We're going to go over those questions at the end and there will, at the end of the presentation, have a chance to also raise your hand in the virtual space or if you're on a phone, press * 9, which is what Jean referred to earlier to raise your hand.

We'll alternate for the clarifying question portion between the chat and the raised hands in the virtual space or phone. And we do have a lot of time allocated this evening for formal public comments, which is why this is our first public meeting virtually on EPA's East Waterway Proposed Plan. And please note that after the clarifying questions section, we're going to have that and anything written in the chat during tonight's session will be a part of the transcript, but it won't be considered a formal public comment that we're going to review as a response in this summary.

And we do ask, just as you're thinking about providing oral comments tonight, that they will be limited to 3 minutes and to please show respect for everyone's comments. Thank you. I'll go over that again when we get there.

So now, I just want to mention four main learning objectives that we have for you. We're starting to dive into the main content before I hand it off to Ravi. The four main learning objectives that we have for this informational presentation on the East Waterway Proposed Plan are the following:

First, we'd really like you to come away from this public meeting knowing where the East Waterway Operable Unit is located and why it needs to be cleaned up. So that's the first one, some of you may know that already, but we'll go over that tonight.

We also want you to learn how EPA is proposing to clean up the East Waterway.

And third, really understand how to provide public comments and why public comments are important.

And fourth, have your questions answered about EPA's Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway.

So quickly, just going over the agenda before I hand it off to Ravi. Ravi will be first doing a brief site overview and history, and some of you may have seen the slides or the pre-recording that were sent out earlier today, so that'll be what he's going over. And that will also include talking about risks to human health and the environment from the East Waterway.

And then, Ravi, will go over a brief overview of the Superfund process for East Waterway, specifically. And then, we'll present details on EPA's Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway. And Nina, if you could put that link to the Proposed Plan, the full Proposed Plan, in the chat for folks. Thank you very much, that's great.

And after that, Ravi will discuss why public comments are important to EPA on this Proposed Plan and how you may provide public comments. Then, Ravi is going to go briefly into the top eight questions that we've already heard on the East Waterway Proposed Plan and answer those. And then, we'll dive into the clarifying questions that you've already either entered into the chat, or that you'll raise your hand in the virtual space or on the phone by pressing * 9.

And then, we will dive into the formal public comment process, opportunity that is required by law at this public meeting, and so, public comments can influence or even change the Proposed Plan that we are presenting tonight. So you're not only appreciated, you're highly encouraged.

And the last thing on this slide, before I hand it off to Ravi, is we just want to emphasize, upfront, that in this presentation of EPA's long-term vision for the East Waterway is to obtain the lowest contaminant levels possible in sediments, to reduce contaminant concentrations of fish tissue, so the Washington State Department of Health could minimize reliance on fish consumption advisories.

This long-term vision also includes achieving sediment polychlorinated biphenyls concentrations equivalent to the concentrations measured in a non-urban background for Puget Sound. Achieving this will rely on both an effective cleanup of the East Waterway and robust source control efforts throughout the green Duwamish River watershed, using a range of Federal, State, and global regulatory authorities.

Now, I'm going to hand it off to our EPA Remedial Project Manager for the Harbor Island Superfund Site, which includes the East Waterway, Ravi. Ravi Sanga, go for it.

00:21:19 – Ravi Sanga

Great! Well, thank you Laura. Can everybody hear me, okay? Laura, am I coming in okay?

00:21:24 – Laura Knudsen

You sound great.

00:21:26 – Ravi Sanga

Great. So good evening, everybody. It's great that so many of you have joined us this evening, virtually. I really appreciate the interest in the Proposed Plan and the East Waterway cleanup. My name is Ravi Sanga, and I have been working on the Harbor Island Superfund Site, including the East Waterway Operable Unit for a long time. So let's begin with a brief overview of the site and some history.

First, when we say, "superfund", we mean a US government law that was first passed in 1980 to cleanup some of the nation's most contaminated sites and requires those responsible for the contamination to pay for site studies and cleanup. On your screen is a map of the Harbor Island Superfund Site, located in the Duwamish River and Elliot Bay in Seattle, Washington. The Harbor Island Superfund Site includes the East Waterway Operable Unit, that is shaded in pink and circled in red.

As you can see from the map, the Harbor Island Superfund Site has been divided up into smaller areas called operable units, or OUs, to help organize the cleanup work. There are seven active OUs at the Harbor Island Superfund Site.

Cleanup decisions were made by EPA at five OUs, and by the Washington Department of Ecology as a tank farm OU. East Waterway is the last remaining OU without a cleanup decision by EPA, and that is why we issued a Proposed Plan for cleaning up this area. EPA is overseeing cleanup of the East Waterway.

Additionally, there are two areas within the East Waterway Operable Unit where cleanups are being done as early actions. An early action area is a specific area where cleanup occurs before sitewide cleanup actions are complete. Slip 36 and Terminal 25 are the early action areas within East Waterway.

The EPA is overseeing the US Coast Guard at Slip 36 and the Port of Seattle at Terminal 25. In the future, EPA will be requesting public comments on the cleanup options for these early action areas, but that is not the focus of this information session.

Lastly, please note that the Lower Duwamish Waterway site is located just upstream of the Harbor Island Superfund Site, and already has a Final Cleanup Plan in place. Even though these are two separate Superfund cleanups, EPA recognizes that they are connected by one river and as a result, ongoing coordination on upstream and downstream activities by EPA and our partners is important.

So the picture on the left of your screen now, is a historical photo of the East Waterway. Over the past hundred years, the East Waterway has been modified to support urban and industrial development. Some of the changes to the East Waterway include controlling the water flow, constructing Harbor Island in the early 1900s, deepening the channel, shoreline modifications, intertidal habitat loss, and installation of riprap, pier aprons, and sheet pile walls.

Historical activities along the East Waterway have included marine terminals, shipyards, bulk fuel terminals, recycling and scrap metal yards, cement manufacturing, log handling, small boat marina, boat manufacturing and repair, and many others. Previous commercial and industrial operations contaminated soil, groundwater, and sediment in the adjacent waterways. Today, as

you can see from the more recent photo on the right of your screen, the East Waterway remains an active industrial waterway, which is used primarily for container loading and transport.

The East Waterway is also an important fishing area for federally recognized tribes because it is part of the Usual and Accustomed Fishing Areas for the Muckleshoot Indian tribe, the Snoqualmie tribe, and the Yakima nation. Treaty-protected uses within the East Waterway include a commercial salmon fishery, as well as ceremonial and subsistence harvesting. Additionally, the East Waterway is also used for other subsistence fishers and for recreation.

Even though much of the contamination concentrations in the East Waterway came from past industrial activities, it is also important to know that there are many other contributing sources of contamination. This graphic does a good job of showing these other sources of contamination, particularly PCBs, that can enter the East Waterway.

For example, atmospheric deposition, meaning precipitation, road runoff, storm drains, and combined sewer overflows, have also polluted surface water and river bottom or sediments in the East Waterway over the past hundred years. These other sources mean that cleaning up contamination, like PCBs, in urban waterways is difficult and complicated.

EPA can take actions to reduce contaminants in the sediment right now, like with this Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway, but there is also a need for looking at what needs to be done to clean up the broader watershed, to help deal with those ongoing sources.

As a result, the key takeaway on this slide is that while today we are presenting an aggressive plan for cleaning up just the contaminated sediment in the East Waterway, it is important to know that lots of other robust source control work will need to be done throughout the green Duwamish River watershed, using a range of Federal, State, and local regulatory authorities.

This slide outlines some of the main contaminants of concern present in the East Waterway that pose the greatest risk to people's health and the environment.

The focused contaminants of concern are polychlorinated biphenyls, arsenic, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (or cPAHs), and dioxins and furans. However, there are several other contaminants of concern that are also present at concentrations that could be harmful to animals that live in the sediment of the East Waterway.

Each of these main contaminants of concern can adversely affect human health and the health of aquatic organisms. Several contaminants of concern can accumulate in fish, meaning people and species that consume fish from the East Waterway can be exposed in that way.

Environmental data collected in the East Waterway, such as from the sediment sampling and animal tissue, were compiled into a document called a Remedial Investigation. This Remedial Investigation is part of the Superfund process and included human health and ecological risk assessments. These risk assessments looked at different ways that people and animals interact with the environment and then estimated risks from potential, current, and future exposures to sediment, water, and consuming fish and shellfish from the East Waterway.

EPA determined that there are unacceptable cancer risks and non-cancer hazards to human health in the East Waterway for people who consume fish and shellfish that live their whole lives

in the river, also called resident fish, and to people who engage in activities that cause them to be exposed to sediments, such as net fishing or harvesting clams. Risks to animals include fish who are exposed to contamination in the sediment and water, and when they eat contaminated prey. Also, animals that live in the sediment and other bottom dwelling organisms are exposed to contaminants present in both water and the sediment.

Cleaning up Superfund Sites is a multi-phase process. Please note that community involvement is a key piece throughout the Superfund process, both because there are community involvement requirements in the Superfund law and because EPA knows that meaningful public involvement will lead to a better cleanup.

The main parts of the Superfund process that I want to highlight on this slide are the following:

First, the Harbor Island Superfund Site was listed in 1983 and included the East Waterway sediments, which was designated part of the Superfund Site in 1994.

As mentioned on the previous slide, in 2014, under oversight by EPA, some of the responsible parties, called the East Waterway group, that include the Port of Seattle, the City of Seattle, and King County completed the Remedial Investigation for the East Waterway that determined the nature and extent of contamination and the adverse risk to people and wildlife.

In 2019, under oversight by EPA, the East Waterway group completed a feasibility study that developed and compared possible cleanup options.

That brings us to today, where EPA comes to you with the first Proposed Plan in the process that outlines those different options for cleanup, and then presents EPA's preferred plan to clean up the East Waterway, also called a preferred alternative. This Proposed Plan includes a formal public comment period, where EPA will collect and carefully review your comments on the Proposed Plan.

Following the Proposed Plan, the EPA will write an Interim Record of Decision or Interim Final Cleanup Plan. This is called an interim, versus a final, cleanup plan because EPA's planning to propose cleanup levels in the future, after cleanup activities of the most contaminated sediment have been concluded and EPA has been able to evaluate what has been achieved with controlling ongoing sources and if contamination entering the East Waterway Operable Unit has been reduced from management of those sources.

Additionally, this interim Record of Decision would include a response to public comments that we received during the public comment period and that document is called a Responsive to Summary.

The next phase in the process is called Remedial Design and the development of detailed designs of the cleanup before construction begins. The estimated time for the remedial design phase is four to five years.

Next, construction of the cleanup, also called Remedial Action, would occur over about ten years. EPA would collect data during the time to understand the effectiveness of the cleanup and efforts to control upstream sources of pollution entering the East Waterway.

After the construction of the cleanup is complete, EPA would continue to monitor and collect data that will be assessed during each five-year review for protectiveness. Based on all this information, EPA would work with the community, State, the tribes, and the East Waterway group to establish cleanup levels.

Lastly, EPA would prepare another Proposed Plan that would include cleanup levels and any additional actions deemed necessary to provide the public with another formal comment period before EPA issues a Final Record of Decision or Final Cleanup Plan.

Now let's talk about the details of what is in the current, and first, Proposed Plan for the East Waterway that we discussed on the last slide.

The first important piece to understand about EPA's Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway is that all cleanup options considered both the open water and limited access, or under pier and low bridge, areas of the East Waterway. In the cleanup alternatives outline in the East Waterway Proposed Plan, different cleanup technologies were selected depending on if the area was open water or if the area had limited access.

The picture to the left shows an image of open water, where there is no visible access limitations or obstructions. In open water areas like this, often a large amount of a technology called dredging can occur. We'll talk more about dredging in a moment.

In contrast, the picture on the right of a limited access area under the West Seattle and Spokane Street bridges, where pilings and the height of the bridges themselves would make it difficult for any equipment or barges to enter. Basically, that is a limited access area.

Now let's talk more about the different cleanup technologies that were considered in the East Waterway Proposed Plan to address these open water and limited access areas.

All cleanup alternatives that are outlined in EPA's Proposed Plan for cleaning up the East Waterway included different combinations of dredging (removal), capping (containment), enhance natural recovery (ENR), and monitored natural recovery (MNR). Some of the things EPA thought about as we proposed different cleanup technologies to areas included the type, amount, and depth of contamination; the likelihood that people, wildlife or fish will come into contact with the contamination; the potential for a natural recovery; the likelihood that the area might be disturbed by ships or construction activities; and the need to maintain water depth and habitat, so that people and fish can continue to use the waterway.

Now, let's learn more about each of these remedial or cleanup technologies.

Dredging is a cleanup technology where contaminated sediment is removed from the waterway and typically transported by barge or rail to an off-site disposal facility. This image demonstrates how a dredging machine from a barge can use equipment to remove sediment and then place that contaminated material on another barge for transport. All the cleanup alternatives outlined in EPA's East Waterway Proposed Plan include mechanical dredging in most of the open water areas. Removing contaminated sediment is needed to maintain the current and future use of the East Waterway Operable Unit as a navigable waterway.

Engineered capping is a cleanup technology, also called containment, where contaminated sediments are contained by placing layers of sand, gravel, or rock to isolate or prevent migration of contamination. This image shows how clean material, in this case sand, could be placed by barge in areas of the East Waterway where there is buried contamination or where appropriate water depth would need to be maintained.

The next technology in EPA's technology toolbox is in situ treatment. This is when a special substance, such as a sequestering agent, like activated carbon or other material, is placed on top of the contaminated sediment. The sequestering agent mixes with the underlying contaminated material and helps reduce the toxicity of the contaminant. As you can see from this image, in situ treatment may be useful in the limited access areas of the East Waterway Operable Unit that I described earlier.

Enhanced natural recovery refers to the placement of a thin layer of clean sand, or other habitat material, on top of contaminated sediment. Over time, this cleaner surface material mixes with the underlying contaminated sediment to reduce contaminant concentrations. This image shows the enhanced natural recovery layer on top of the buried contamination. This image also shows that for the East Waterway, incoming sediment from the Green River, and a very small amount from the Duwamish River, will naturally deposit on top of some areas of the waterway over time as well.

The last technology in EPA's technology toolbox is monitored natural recovery. Monitored natural recovery relies on natural processes to reduce the ecological and human health risks. During the cleanup, EPA takes samples to see if monitored natural recovery is effective.

Now that we have covered all the technologies that were considered in EPA's East Waterway Proposed Plan, let's talk about all the cleanup alternatives that are in the Proposed Plan.

Before we show you all the cleanup alternatives that EPA evaluated in the East Waterway Proposed Plan, please keep in mind that EPA uses nine criteria to evaluate all the possible alternatives. On this slide, the first two criteria are called threshold criteria, which means that any interim cleanup plan that is selected, must protect people's health and the environment, and comply with applicable laws.

We then use the next five criteria as balancing criteria to weigh relative pros and cons of the different alternatives. As we are in the public comment phase, we are currently evaluating the last two criteria: state and tribal acceptance, and community acceptance. This public comment period is important because it allows us an opportunity to seek feedback from you, before making any final decisions regarding our interim cleanup plan. As you review the Proposed Plan and think about the material of the presentation, also consider these nine criteria.

Now let's look at the cleanup alternatives that are in the East Waterway Proposed Plan. We know this slide has a lot of information, but this is the same figure that is in the EPA Proposed Plan. This table captures all ten cleanup options or alternatives that were considered by EPA, including an alternative where EPA doesn't do any cleanup at all, and this is called a no action alternative, and this is required for comparison. The key pieces to focus on with this slide

include three different ways to handle the open water area piece to the cleanup were considered in these alternatives, and those alternatives are marked by different numbers.

Number 1 considered removal or dredging, capping, and enhanced natural recovery in the navigation, and sill reach the area under the West Seattle and low bridges.

Number 2 considered removal or dredging, capping, and enhanced natural recovery in the sill reach.

Number 3 considered removal and capping.

Also, four different ways to handle the limited access area piece to the cleanup were considered, and those are marked by different letters.

Letter A considered monitored natural recovery in under-pier areas and enhanced natural recovery in the sill reach.

Letter B considered in situ treatment in under-pier areas and enhanced natural recovery in the sill reach.

Letter C Plus considered diver assisted hydraulic dredging in under-pier areas with high concentrations of PCBs or mercury, followed by in situ treatment for other under-pier areas, and enhanced natural recovery in the sill reach.

Letter E considered diver-assisted hydraulic dredging, followed by in situ treatment in all under-pier areas, and enhanced natural recovery in the sill reach.

Finally, two contaminant concentrations to remove high levels of PCBs, also called remedial action levels, or RALs, were considered. Those values included 12 mg/kg organic carbon and 7.5 mg/kg organic carbon.

After considering all these alternatives with the criteria that we mentioned on the previous slide, EPA selected a preferred alternative that we have outlined in this Proposed Plan, and that has the following pieces:

Number 3, removal and capping of open water areas.

Letter B, in situ treatment in under-pier areas, enhanced natural recovery in the sill reach for limited access areas, with a modification to include enhanced natural recovery under low clearance bridges.

And 12, or using 12 mg/kg for PCB removal.

Now let's look at this map of EPA's preferred alternative. The key thing to notice on this figure is that EPA is proposing to actively cleanup almost the entire waterway. This is one of the most comprehensive cleanups the EPA has proposed in our region. As you can see from all the colors on this map, we are targeting different actions throughout and almost the entire waterway. Specifically, the yellow color on the map is where EPA will be dredging and removing contaminated sediment.

The areas that are fuchsia, on the edges, are places under the piers where we have material that needs to be cleaned up, but there is limited access. That is where we are planning to do some in situ treatment.

The areas in green are where we will do capping, after we have done some dredging.

Also, the area that is blue, right under the bridge, is another limited access area and we plan to do enhanced natural recovery to help facilitate quicker reduction in contamination by the natural system.

Also, there is an area in light pink on the map that goes across the waterway where we know there is a communication cable. In this area, we know we won't be able to dredge deep enough to remove all the contamination without damaging the cable. So therefore, we will be doing focused removals as best we can.

We also know that there are some areas, that have shown in light yellow, where we will also be doing removal and backfill, and still maintaining the same water depth of the area.

Now we have a brief video that we have been working on and have received some great preliminary feedback on from some of you, and we would like to share it right now. This video is about three and a half minutes long, and visually shows all of the remedial technologies that we just discussed and how EPA's proposing to apply those technologies for the preferred alternative to clean up the East Waterway.

00:46:23 – Technical Video

00:49:47 – Ravi Sanga

Great, thank you and I hope that that video really helped you all understand the concept of the remedial technologies, and how they're being applied to the proposed cleanup.

So, this slide highlights a few other important pieces of information about EPA's preferred alternative.

First, you will see a breakdown of all the technologies that EPA is proposing to use for this interim cleanup by acres, and you can see that EPA is proposing to conduct active cleanup on most of the East Waterway Operable Unit.

Secondly, you can see that the estimated cost of EPA's preferred alternative for cleaning out the East Waterway is \$290M.

Also, the active construction of the cleanup is estimated to take ten years because we can't work while salmon are migrating through the waterway, and we seek to limit construction impacts while tribes are fishing in the waterway.

Lastly, because this will be an interim cleanup plan, EPA will propose cleanup levels after the cleanup activities have been concluded, and EPA has been able to further evaluate what has been achieved with source control. Specifically, in reducing contamination entering the East Waterway.

This interim approach gets the active cleanup of the waterway started and gives us time to evaluate the effectiveness of source control efforts, and to fully incorporate them into the development of sediment cleanup levels for the East waterway, while taking action now to substantially reduce risk to human health and the environment.

Institutional controls, EPA's term for activity and use limitations such as fish advisories and zoning restrictions, to reduce people's exposure to contamination, will also be implemented as part of the interim cleanup plan and will enhance cleanup protectiveness and protect the integrity of the cleanup over time. Some of the institutional controls that EPA is proposing in our preferred alternative for the East Waterway include land use restrictions to protect caps and areas where in situ treatment is applied, waterway use restrictions (like the photo on the right, that shows a sign in the river telling boaters not to disturb the sediment cap), fish consumption advisories (like the photo on the bottom, that is by the Spokane Street bridge), and educational outreach. EPA will work with local governments to review data that will inform these advisories in the future.

Lastly, we want to mention that EPA's long-term vision for the East Waterway is to obtain the lowest contaminant level possible in sediments to reduce contaminant concentrations in fish tissue, so the Washington State Department of Health can minimize reliance on fish consumption advisory; however, as we discussed in the last slide, achieving this vision will rely on both an effective cleanup of the East Waterway Operable Unit and robust source control efforts using other Federal, State and local authorities.

Community input and questions on EPA's Proposed Plan for the East Waterway cleanup, including EPA's preferred alternative, are encouraged. We really do review the public comments that you submit and consider if we should make changes to the Final Interim Cleanup Plan.

You may submit public comments in multiple ways, including:

- By mail (and use the address on this slide).

- By email to EastWaterwayComments@EPA.gov. Again, EastWaterwayComments@EPA.gov.

- By translated comment forms on EPA's Harbor Island website, which are in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Khmer.

- By voicemail in any language, by calling 206-553-6520. Again, that's 206-553-6520.

- By attending public meetings on May 25th, today, actually. And this is our virtual meeting, in English, but we're having another one on June 3rd, and that will be in-person with interpretation in Spanish, Khmer, and Vietnamese, and providing oral and/or written comments.

- So, in addition to today, you have the opportunity to come on June 3rd as well, and that'll be In-person.

Please note that public comments must be submitted to EPA by Friday, August 11th. This comment period end date already incorporates a 45-day extension request that was granted.

More information about all these opportunities for providing public comments, including the public meetings, is available on EPA's Harbor Island website at www.EPA.gov/Superfund/Harbor-Island.

As we mentioned previously, EPA will include a response to the public comments that we receive during the public comment period, called a Responsiveness Summary when we issue the Final Interim Cleanup Decision. So, the Responsiveness Summary will essentially be part of that interim cleanup decision or interim record of the decision.

So, in just a moment we will dive into some of the frequently asked questions to date on EPA's East Waterway Proposed Plan. But before we do, we'd like to highlight another piece of EPA's community engagement strategy for the East Waterway Proposed Plan. Based on lots of community interviews and great information from the update to EPA's Harbor Island Community Involvement plan, in addition to public meetings, we are also offering at least four availability sessions on the East Waterway Proposed Plan, where we will be available to answer questions, but only written public comments will be accepted.

The upcoming availability sessions are listed on this slide and include an availability booth at El Mercado on Tuesday, June 6th from 3 to 7pm at 1253 South Cloverdale Street. Also, attending the South Park Neighborhood Association on Tuesday, June 13th starting at 6pm at the Duwamish River Community Hub at 8600 14th Avenue South. Also, attending the Georgetown Community Council Meeting on Monday, June 26th starting at 7pm, location pending, and we will get that location to you. And finally, you can come to an availability booth at the Fun Duwamish River Festival on Saturday, August 5th from 12pm to 5pm, at the beautiful Duwamish River People's Park and Shoreline Habitat at 8700 Dallas Avenue South, Seattle, Washington 98108.

Now let's review some of the frequently asked questions that we have already received.

The first question is, why has it taken so long to release the Proposed Plan for the East Waterway Operable Unit? This is a great question, and the reason is because EPA was hearing a lot of different feedback on the East Waterway cleanup, and we took this feedback very seriously. It took us time to process and consider all that feedback that was previously provided by community members, tribal members, public agencies, businesses, and other interested parties.

Our next question that we have received is, who will actually conduct and pay for the cleanup of the East Waterway? Already some potentially responsible parties for the contamination have stepped up and provided resources to complete the remedial investigation and feasibility study with EPA oversight. For the future interim cleanup of the East waterway, EPA anticipates working with the Port of Seattle, City of Seattle, King County, and possibly other potential responsible parties to implement the interim cleanup under EPA oversight.

Question three asks, the East Waterway Proposed Plan states that EPA has a long-term vision that includes achieving a PCB concentration of 2 parts per billion. Is this an official cleanup level that EPA is committing to in this Proposed Plan? Well, no, EPA will not be setting an official cleanup level until active cleanup of the waterway has been completed, and EPA has evaluated

the effectiveness of efforts by Federal, State, and local governments to reduce contamination entering the East Waterway from the Green Duwamish River watershed. As we have discussed today, this is one of the most comprehensive cleanups the EPA has ever proposed in our region. Even though we are not setting an official cleanup level, our efforts will be guided by, and in support of, achieving our long-term vision of 2 parts per billion, both in our proposed cleanup plan and how we engage with others to reduce contamination coming into the site after active cleanup of the waterway has been concluded.

Question four states will this cleanup have any effect on the Green River and will sediments from the Green River be used for capping in the Duwamish River? The cleanup will not have any effect on the Green River and materials for capping will not come from the Green River. Lastly, EPA will ensure any capping materials are free of contamination. As shown on the previous slide, there will be some natural deposition of sediment from the Green River into the East Waterway because these river systems are connected.

Question Five asks, what impact would the future construction of the cleanup have on community members? This is an important question, and it is built into the Superfund process for EPA to consider this question with valuable input from community members after an interim Record of Decision is issued, and as the cleanup is being designed.

The next question asks, why did EPA consider both 7.5 mg/kg and 12 mg/kg as a remedial action level for PCBs, but is proposing 12 mg/kg in their preferred alternative? First, EPA carefully examined the reduction in risk at both 7.5 and 12 and found that the additional risk reduction to the human health or ecological risk from the area to be remediated, did not justify the additional cost. Furthermore, the Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site has a PCB remedial action level of 12 mg/kg. As a result, EPA is proposing a remedial action level of 12 mg/kg as our preferred alternative for cleaning up the East Waterway.

Question seven asks, since EPA's Harbor Island community involvement plan is not final yet, does that mean that there is no binding guidance or official requirements for outreach on the East waterway Proposed Plan? This is a great question. First of all, EPA must fulfill the community involvement requirements for the release of a Proposed Plan, as outlined in the Superfund law. Additionally, even though the updated Harbor Island CIP is not yet finalized because EPA is still considering feedback received on the draft CIP and wants to consider public comments on the East waterway Proposed Plan, EPA is committing to a robust outreach approach for the East Waterway Proposed Plan. This includes the following, first, continuing to increase public awareness about the Harbor Island Superfund Site, including the East Waterway, by sharing information like EPA's general Harbor Island fact sheet and translated Harbor Island 101 materials from the Harbor Island webinar that we gave earlier. We're also going to advertise the release of the East Waterway Proposed Plan and comment period in English, in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Khmer using different media outlets and media. Also, we are providing the option for informal community information sessions between April 21st through April 27th for community members in advance of the public comment period for the East Waterway Proposed Plan. And we're sharing high-level updates about the public comment period for the East Waterway Proposed Plan at community events and meetings. And we're offering multiple ways to provide public comments as outlined in the East Waterway Proposed Plan fact sheet. The fact

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sheet is also translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, and Khmer. We are holding two public meetings to collect public comments, today is our virtual meeting in English, but we're also having a meeting Saturday, June 3, 2023, in-person with interpretation in Spanish, Khmer, and Vietnamese. And we are offering at least four availability sessions during the public comment period, where anyone may ask questions and provide written comments.

The last question is, since there are two early action areas within the East Waterway Operable Unit, how will EPA take this into consideration during cleanup for the East Waterway (including community involvement)? EPA will ensure that early action cleanups are consistent with the overall cleanup of the East Waterway Operable Unit. Also, like the East Waterway Proposed Plan, EPA will commit to robust community engagement for these early actions and will design tailored community engagement approaches based on the rich information from community interviews during the update to the EPA Harbor Island CIP.

So, thank you so much for your time, for coming out, for listening, and for your energy in listening to this entire presentation on the Proposed Plan for the East Waterway Operable Unit of the Harbor Island Superfund Site. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments. Laura's contact information and mine are on this slide, so we look forward to hearing from you. So, take good care and I'll hand it back over to Laura, who will help facilitate any clarifying questions that you may have on this presentation before we accept formal public comments tonight. Thank you very much.

01:07:08 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you, Ravi, for that presentation and thank you all for listening, and we have a lot of great clarifying questions in the chat that we're going to go over before we start the formal public comments. And we also, if you want to ask a clarifying question verbally, feel free to raise your hands in the chat or in the virtual space, or press * 9 if you're on the phone.

And just a reminder that these questions, this section here, they're really mainly meant to help clarify anything said during the presentation. So, an example of a clarifying question would be, how deep is EPA planning to dredge, for instance? And if you're uncertain whether your question is a comment, you can wait until the comment period, the formal comment portion, of tonight's session officially begins. I'll help with that as well, and for the questions, we're going to start with Kira and answer questions with her first, and then she will draw upon others on the team here tonight that I introduced previously. And also, just if you can ask one question first, I know we have some ones in the chat, which is great, but we're going to start with one first, so everyone has a chance to ask questions. And we'll come back if you have multiple questions. So, with that said, let's take one. The first question that came in the chat, let's do that at first, but first question that came into the chat during the presentation; the question is from Jamie with DRCC, is there a source control plan for East Waterway? Will Ecology handle upland clean up on the Lower Duwamish Waterway?

01:09:01 – Kira Lynch

So, thanks for that question, Jamie. So, with the cleanup proceeding in the East Waterway, we do have a source control plan and we've been working closely with the City and the County and

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the Court on that. And similar to Lower Duwamish Waterway, what we will be doing is what's called a Sufficiency Assessment prior to proceeding with any of the cleanup work in the waterway itself. So, we will be looking at all the source work that's been done up until that time and, as we said in the presentation, that source control work is being done under a range of Federal, State, and local regulatory authorities. But I also wanted to take this time to point out that, you know, back to the concept of the one river, the source control work that's being done for the Lower Duwamish Waterway and up in the upper watershed is just as important for the cleanup that we're doing here, as it is for the Lower Duwamish Waterway. So from that standpoint, the work that we're doing with Ecology, with all the source control work that they're leading for us up in that area of the watershed, is critically important; especially, as we move into how the system is going to look and equilibrate after we've done all of the work that we described today about removing the contaminants from the East Waterway itself.

01:10:45 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you, Kira. And Jamie, thank you for that question. I just want to see, Jean, is there anyone on the phone or in the room who's raised their hand? I'm not seeing any.

01:10:56 – Jean Balent

No, I do not see any raised hands. But just a gentle reminder, you'll find that "Raise Hand" button under the "Reactions" button or smiley face icon. Or you may also press * 9 on your phone keypad if you'd like to ask a question out loud.

01:11:09 – Laura Knudsen

Great. Thanks, Jean. Then, we'll go to the next question and in the chat that came in. Paulina Lopez with the Duwamish River Committee Coalition asks, could it be possible to have different cleanup alternatives in this East Waterway Superfund? And Paulina, I think, I want to just clarify what you mean by that question, is it possible to have maybe another alternative that's not listed in the Proposed Plan, including EPA's preferred alternative? Is that what you mean? And feel free if you... Okay, great. That's correct. So, Kira...

01:11:47 – Kira Lynch

So, Paulina thank you for that question. From the standpoint of comments that we are looking for from the public, you can make any comments you want, even if they're on alternatives that aren't included in the Proposed Plan. For us moving forward, we can select an alternative that's different than what we proposed in the Proposed Plan as our preferred alternative. We could also put together an alternative that may be slightly different than what was presented on the tables, or looked at in the feasibility study. But what we're limited to in selecting the final remedy, would be some kind of combination of the various technologies and pieces that were evaluated in the feasibility study itself.

01:12:47 – Laura Knudsen

Thanks, Kira. I'm not seeing any other raised hands right now in the room, so we'll keep on going through the questions in the chat. And Jamie, your next question was in the chat, but I'm going to go to (b) question, just to do another person's question. We'll come back to your question.

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We had a question from (b) in the chat, what actions would EPA expect boaters to take to not disturb caps?

01:13:20 – Kira Lynch

So, the limitations would be that we would definitely be wanting to look at limiting weights and things like not dragging anchors, but it's important to point out that most of the areas in the East Waterway itself is not used for, like, recreational boating necessarily and the caps are going to be deep. So really, it would be limitations on things that are going to directly impact the cap itself, like dragging anchors and things. But all of those types of controls, those will be detailed and lined out in what we call a Land Use Control Plan/Institutional Controls Plan, that will be part of the remedial design as we proceed with the cleanup for the site.

01:14:20 – Laura Knudsen

Great, thank you and great question. I know there's another question. There're a couple questions from Jamie in the chat, so we'll get to those in a moment. There's another question from (b)(6) in the chat, how long will this cleanup take and how much does it all cost?

01:14:41 – Kira Lynch

So, the timeframe currently, our estimate, is that active remediation of the waterway itself is going to take approximately ten years. One of the reasons that it takes that long is that we need to limit the time that we're doing in-water work, to times that don't interfere with, or are consistent with, the fish windows for working in the waterway.

As far as the question about cost, that gets refined as we go through the process. But the approximate cost that we have right now, that's associated with the preferred alternative that EPA has presented in the in the Proposed Plan, is approximately \$290M. It's important to point out to people, though, that when we're looking at costs like this in this stage of a cleanup process, there is some variability in that, and it's expected that that cost could be minus 30, plus 50, as far as a range of where the cost could end up when we get more refinement of what it's going to take to implement the final selected action.

01:15:59 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you for a great question. And then, before we finish with Jamie's questions, so far because I'm not seeing any other raised hands on the chat. I think I see a speed up request, so thank you for that. A question from (b)(6) in the chat, I assume the communication channel is buried below sediment layers, is this correct? So that's the first question, Kira, from (b)(6).

01:16:27 – Kira Lynch

You know, Laura, I'm going to have to call on Ravi or maybe someone on the team that knows more about the communication cable itself.

01:16:42 – Laura Knudsen

Ravi, did you want to take it for a shot?

01:16:45 – Ravi Sanga

Yeah, sure, I can do that.

Yeah, the communications cable is buried deep. It's buried deeper than 5 feet in the waterway, and basically during the design phase, we're going to have to do some extra sampling and characterization around that area to determine what we can remove above the remedial action levels and then backfill when appropriate. So, we're not going to be able to remove everything out of there; but, yes, the communications cable is buried deep within the sediment.

01:17:30 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you and there were a couple of other parts to the question, just how often does the communications channel experience maintenance or new installations? And, is the communications channel controlled by one or multiple entities? I'm not sure we know, but Ravi, did you want to?

01:17:46 – Ravi Sanga

We actually don't know that information, so we can find out and let you know later on and answer your question later on.

01:17:59 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you, (b)(6) and that's captured. I'm going to go back because Jamie had some good questions and there's a couple other ones coming in. We want to start the formal public comments in a moment, but Jamie had a question, Kira. If in situ treatments is done under-piers, as opposed to diver-assisted dredging, will that mean higher concentrations of toxins in fish tissue in the short-term?

01:18:26 – Kira Lynch

Not necessarily. So, first, it's important to understand that, you know, the actions that we're taking in the waterway. The fish swim throughout the waterway, they go up into the Lower Duwamish Waterway, so they're not necessarily, like, sensitive as far as how quickly they're going to cleanup, or how quickly the fish are going to respond to all this work that we're doing to remove these contaminants from the sediment itself.

But from the standpoint of looking at the various alternatives, the difference that would be between removing that sediment with diver-assisted dredging or capping it with the amendments to be able to reduce how much of the PCBs are getting into the poor water, that was evaluated in the feasibility study to look at all of the various factors that we look at, like, the cost of doing one versus the other? Do we feel like it would make a difference in the total risk reduction for the waterway? But this also gives me a chance to highlight one of the other benefits that we have with going with this interim cleanup approach for the waterway, which is that we've identified, we know what actions we need to take in the waterway itself. As we said earlier, this is really one of the most comprehensive cleanups that we've done in Region Ten. When you look at the total area of contaminated sediment that we're removing, when you compare that to other cleanups, by far it has the highest percentage of area that we're doing actual removal of the contaminants from the waterway. It also gives us time to look at things, like the areas where we're using amendments underneath the piers and other things, that we

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can't get to to do direct removal through dredging and be able to assess how that's performing after we've done the interim cleanup, and we can incorporate anything that we learn about the performance of that into the step when we do the Final Record of Decision for the site.

01:20:56 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you, Kira. We have, I know we have technically on the agenda, we were going to start the formal public comments and we will. But we only have a few more questions and I want to go ahead and get to those because it might help inform those public comments. So, I want to go, there's a question in the chat from (b), is the source control plan you mentioned earlier available to the public? Kira? I'm not sure. Yeah.

01:21:26 – Kira Lynch

I think that as far as what's being done and what will be done as far as the assessment, the sufficiency assessment, before we go forward with remedial action. Yes, that will be something that will be available to the public before we move into the actual remedial action itself.

01:21:51 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you. And then a question from Jamie, with Duwamish River Community Coalition, will the community health advocate program be implemented for the East Waterway too? And, secondly, what metrics are used to assess how effective institutional controls are?

01:22:11 – Kira Lynch

So, similar to other decisions that we've made in this area, the watershed, relying on the existing Washington State Department of Health Fish Advisories, while they're needed, that's a key part of this and the education and outreach program that we've started on with the Lower Duwamish Waterway that involves the community health advocates. Yes, we are hoping to definitely build on that and continue with that. We really feel that it's important, on top of just making sure that people are aware of the Department of Health Fish Advisories, that we provide education, and we provide people with information about what are safer choices of fish to use and to eat, especially as we continue to work on the cleanup of the site.

So, from the standpoint of like what are the performance metrics that we're using for that, that's always kind of a difficult thing to say, well, how successful are we on reaching the people that we need to reach? But I know that we started those discussions, and we're definitely open to any ideas that people have about things that we could be doing better, or how we could be better assessing our own performance of how we're being able to share and reach and help educate people on the better fishing choices.

01:23:49 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you, Kira. I just added that I think if that's something we saw in public comments, if we saw some information about that, that would be very helpful to us too. And the last question before we go into the formal public comment session, and if you have other clarifying questions, we'll leave the room open a little longer at the end of the formal public comments, if you do have other clarifying questions that aren't comments. It's (b)(6) on slide 6, EPA notes, the

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vision is to obtain the lowest contaminant levels possible in sediments? Can EPA clarify if this statement is for specific contaminants? According to the feasibility study, cleanup alternatives can meet protective levels for most contaminants based on active remedy. Kira?

01:24:39 – Kira Lynch

Yeah, so first I just wanted to point out that, you know, that's a vision of where we're going and it's definitely something that's a driver, but this Interim Cleanup Proposed Plan is very focused on the engineering aspects and the cleanup things that we're doing in the waterway itself. The vision for cleaning up the total watershed and getting it to the lowest concentration as possible, is really focused on those contaminants where we know that there's background concentrations of those contaminants, things like dioxins and PCBs and arsenic, where the vision is to try to reduce those as much as possible to get to similar concentrations that we see in non-urban areas.

01:25:38 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you so much, Kira, and we're going to move on to the formal public comments section now. We will note, (b)(6) has a question in the chat, will the Round Table be a good venue to engage community with the one river approach? I think that's a great question, I'll just go ahead and take it. It's something we've started thinking about and I think that would also be something to consider, you know, as if that is a public comment potentially, too. That's kind of in the, I don't know if, Kira, do you want to mention anything else about it? But that's how I'd respond to that. So, thank you.

01:26:17 – Kira Lynch

Yeah, no. I thought, I think, that your answer is great, Laura, and we'd be very interested in getting people's comments on those types of things. But very much so, we're interested in continuing to improve and engage the communities around all of these Superfund Sites that we all know are connected, and we need to be looking at them and working on cleanup together holistically.

01:26:47 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you and thank you for all those clarifying questions. So now we're transitioning to the formal public comment portion of the meeting. Please note that if you want to make a formal public comment, you can let us know by raising your hand in the virtual space, that Jean went over and is on a slide here; or if you're on the phone, please press * 9 and that'll get you in the queue. Jean will call on you to unmute. Just a couple of pointers, we do ask that you please keep your public comments, at least your initial one, to 3 minutes to allow enough time for others to provide comments.

If you feel comfortable, please state your first and last name at the beginning of your comments and your organization, if applicable and if you want to, and then, you can provide your comment. And it's also completely okay to stay anonymous if you don't want to share your name or organization when you provide your comments, that's okay too. And please just start with one public comment, and then if there's time at the end, we'll come back to you because,

EPA staff, we're going to be here until all the public comments that you want to provide us or done. And just remember, too, you can also provide oral public comments in any language on EPA's East Waterway Proposed Plan at any time, until August 11th, by calling 206-553-6520. That's 206-553-6520.

And the only other thing, which I know everyone will do a great job of, but I'll help remind folks too, if needed, is just to be respectful of everyone's comments. And so, if possible, please refrain from putting any remarks in the chat on comments just so that all comments may be treated with equal respect and dignity, here in this virtual space.

And if you do decide to come, if you're in the virtual space, and you decide to come on camera and share your video, that's totally, that's great. You don't have to, no pressure. If you do, we'll go ahead and spotlight your video as you're commenting. We, again, are not going to post this recording, but the transcript will be posted, just to remind you.

And lastly, if you write something in the chat, just to remind you, it won't count as a public comment. There are other ways, that we mentioned and are in the chat, to provide written and oral public comments. So now let's begin. Jean, do we have someone in the queue?

01:29:32 – Jean Balent

We do. I see a hand raised. I believe the first name is (b)(6), and I apologize if I mispronounce, (b)(6) ?

01:29:40 – (b)(6)

That's me.

01:29:41 – Laura Knudsen

Hi, (b)(6). Great, we can hear you and if you want, let's go ahead and begin. Meshach will start the timer, so go ahead, (b)(6) Thank you.

01:29:52 – (b)(6)

I mean, just from what I was listening to today and then from the clarifying question I had, I do have just a concern that the communications channel poses an ongoing risk for long-term sources of pollution through maintenance or, like, new installations on the line just because it's going through sediment. Also, I'm just curious, like, is it regulated by the County or a different entity? But anyway, just looking forward to hearing more, but the communications channel seems like a potential weak point in the cleanup plan. I would like more clarifying information about that. That's kind of the main thing, and then I just ask that you continue to meaningfully engage with the Duwamish River tribe and the local community, and that's everything I got. Thanks for your time.

01:30:40 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you very much, (b)(6) And did you want to include, (b)(6) your organization or anything? If you do, feel free to add that just now for the transcript. If not, no worries.

01:30:53 – (b)(6)

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I'm just an individual. I do (b)(6) Yeah, thank you.

01:30:58 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you, (b)(6) Thank you for being here. Jean, do we have someone else in the queue?

01:31:04 – Jean Balent

Yes, the next hand that I see raised is Kamuron Gurol.

01:31:11 – Laura Knudsen

Hello? Kamuron, can you hear us? Is that...[inaudible]

01:31:15 – Kamuron Gurol

Yes, hi! My name is Kamuron Gurol. Thank you. I will start now.

Good evening. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. My name is Kamuron Gurol and I serve as Director of the King County Wastewater Treatment Division in the Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

We very much appreciate the EPA's work on the Proposed Plan for sediment cleanup in the East Waterway portion of the Harbor Island Superfund Site. The plan is an important step in the cleanup process, and King County supports getting started as soon as possible. My comments tonight include three main points.

First, King County works hard every day to improve our environment as the key to a healthy and thriving Puget Sound region. The mission of our regional wastewater treatment system is to protect public health and the environment by collecting and cleaning wastewater, while recovering valuable resources for a healthy Puget Sound. We provide this essential service 24/7, 365 to nearly two million people in King, Snohomish, and Pierce Counties.

Second, we continue to make major long-term investments to our region's wastewater system to serve our region's needs for decades to come. These investments will improve water quality, reduce the likelihood and severity of overflow events, and meet Federal and State regulatory requirements. In the Duwamish River watershed, we're reducing sources of pollution during heavy storms through projects like the Georgetown Wet Weather Treatment Station and the West Duwamish Wet Weather Storage Facility. An ongoing work, to control remaining combines to our overfill sites and reduce sources of pollution into the waterway.

Third, by listening to communities and customers, we know they care deeply about water quality and that sewer rates are already unaffordable for many vulnerable community members.

As we undertake our Superfund cleanup responsibilities, we must always, we must also, work together with State and Federal partners to share the costs of additional investments to water quality. Those that are above and beyond the East Waterway cleaning, ensure that they are, in fact, affordable.

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We will continue to keep our ears and eyes open to community interests as the East Waterway plan process unfolds. King County remains committed to protecting the environment, including making significant investments protect water quality and the Duwamish River. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important plan.

01:33:44 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you so much for those comments. We really appreciate all of these public comments. Thank you so much. Jean, who else do we have in the queue?

01:33:55 – Jean Balent

I see our next hand raised from Sarah Ogier, and I apologize if I mispronounced, from the Port of Seattle.

01:34:04 – Laura Knudsen

Hey, Sarah. Are you ready?

01:34:07 – Sarah Ogier

Yes, good evening. I'm Sarah Ogier. I'm the Port of Seattle Director for Maritime Environment and Sustainability. I want to say thank you to the EPA staff for your presentation tonight, I really appreciated that. My comments will be brief tonight. I just want to note that the Port of Seattle is very pleased that EPA has released the East Waterway Proposed Plan, and the Port of Seattle is eager to have this cleanup move forward. This is an important step, right now, reviewing this plan, so we can move forward.

The Port of Seattle knows how important communication with the community is, and how important it is for the community to have a clear understanding of the proposed cleanup and what it can accomplish. To that end, we appreciate EPA holding this meeting and providing other public engagement opportunities as described this evening. J

We, at the Port of Seattle, look forward to hearing tonight's community feedback and the remaining feedback you'll collect during this review period. Thank you again for this meeting and the opportunity to comment tonight.

01:35:15 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you very much, Sarah. Thank you. Jean, are there other people in the queue right now?

01:35:26 – Jean Balent

At this time, I do not see any other... oh, speaking of that, I do see another hand that just came up. I also wanted to gently remind those who are on the telephone lines, I know you don't have the added benefit of the visuals. So again, if you're just calling on the phone lines, you can also raise your hand if you'd like to share remarks or comments verbally by pressing * 9 on your phone keypad.

With that, the next name or hand that I see raised is Ellen Stewart.

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01:35:55 – Ellen Stewart

Oh, thank you. Can you hear me?

01:35:58 – Laura Knudsen

Yes, yes, go ahead.

01:36:00 – Ellen Stewart

Thank you. Hello! My name is Ellen Stewart and I'm the Deputy Director of Drainage and Wastewater for Seattle Public Utilities. I began my SPU career 22 years ago in source control on this very river, working to find pollutants before they enter our waterways. I've worked in, near, and for the Duwamish River and the East waterway throughout my entire SPU career.

The City of Seattle respects the cultural, natural, and economic significance of the Duwamish and the East Waterway to the people of Seattle, and the city is one of three public entities who are part of the East Waterway group. We work together, under the direction of EPA, to complete site investigations and develop cleanup plans for the East Waterway cleanup.

We are pleased that the EPA has released the Proposed Plan for public comment, and we support the public process that EPA is leading. We look forward to hearing community feedback and engaging with the community throughout this process. This is an important milestone for this project, and we're eager to begin the cleanup process.

Seattle Public Utilities has been an engaged partner in this work for decades, and we look forward to a healthy future for our residents and for the river. Thank you.

01:37:13 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you very much, Ellen. Thank you for that comment. Are there other hands in the queue, Jean?

01:37:24 – Jean Balent

At this time, I do not see any other hands raised. If you are having any difficulty locating that button, please feel free to send me a message in the chat. I'll be happy to help you identify it.

01:37:38 – Laura Knudsen

While you're maybe thinking about any other formal public comments, we're going to just... There's plenty of time for more formal public comments if you would like to make any right now. And if you make one right now, you can make another one another time, too. It doesn't have to be just one. You can make as many as you would like.

Let's, while we're giving everyone a little bit of time. Let's just go, Meshach, to the next slide briefly. Just to remind people again, I know we went over this and Jean put everything in the chat too, but just a quick note that we really do, you know, we consider and respond to the public comments that we receive on this Proposed Plan. To remind you that the comments are due to EPA by August 11th. You can mail them. You can email. There are translated comment forms on our website, again. You can, again, in a voice call, this voicemail, and leave a voicemail

at this number, 206-553-6520. Or tonight, the public meeting you're attending, thank you, or on Saturday, June 3rd. We'll have our In-person public meeting at the South Seattle College: Georgetown Campus, Building C at 6737 Corson Avenue South. We'll have, again, this presentation at 12pm and 3pm, but you can drop by any time, feel free to bring your family, from 11am to 6pm. We'll have a family activity table, and we are excited for that. We'll have interpreters in Vietnamese, Spanish, and Khmer. Then, we also have, as we mentioned, those other availability sessions. So just to remind you, there's plenty of other opportunities to tell us what you think and asking additional clarifying questions will be available at those availability sessions.

So, any other public comments? Let's go back to the other slide, Meschach, for formal public comments. We'll just give a little space because I know there's a lot of information that was provided and a lot of information in the Proposed Plan. This is very important.

So, we'll give you a moment. See if there any other hands. If you're having any problems raising your hand in the virtual space or if you're on the phone, just let us know, and Jean will be able to help you indicate that you want to make a formal comment.

01:40:40 – Jean Balent

That's right, Laura. For some participants. they may find the "Reactions" button, where they can access the hand-raise feature under the three dots or more menu. For some participants, it may be actually located at the bottom of their participant list. They'll find a "Raise Hand" button there. So again, we're happy to work with you. If you need any assistance, just send a message in the chat or, again, on the phone lines, press * 9 on your phone keypad.

01:41:07 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you all so much for being here too. This evening, we'll give another minute, and then we'll just open it up to you for additional clarifying questions, that would not be formal public comments. But right now, formal public comments. Oral public comments are what we're taking. And of course, at that June 3rd meeting in-person, there will be another opportunity to provide formal oral public comments. Again, any time you can drop in between 11am to 6pm, so let folks know. We have heard some people, like, "whoa! That's seven hours." Not a seven-hour meeting, you don't have to be there for all seven hours. That would be terrible. It's meant to be a drop-in kind of thing that you could stay for five minutes or if you want to stay for seven hours you could, but probably not what most people want to do. So, feel free to come for as long as you would like, and there will also be a quiet room where you can review materials and rates, public comments in that space too, if you would like to kind of, you know, just decide to drop-in, and spend some time writing public comments. We'll have translated comment forms for writing as well in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Khmer.

So, all right. Jean, are you seeing any other hands right now?

01:42:42 – Jean Balent

No, I'm not seeing any hands indicating additional requests to share verbal comments. But I do see a number of "thank you" messages in the chat, and people are appreciating the opportunities to share their comments.

01:42:55 – Laura Knudsen

Great, thank you. Thank you for all the things. Thank all of you because the reason why there are so many ways to provide public feedback and comments is because of the feedback we received in the Community Involvement Plan interviews for Harbor Island and other conversations. So, thank you all so much and I'm very glad it's helpful.

I think we'll go ahead and take a beat on the formal oral public comments for a moment. So let's go back to the previous slide, Meshach. And this is, you know, any clarifying questions, or part of the transcript, just not something that we're going to be including in our Responsiveness, Summary in our Final Interim Record of Decision that will be issued after we've reviewed all of the public comments we received. So I just want to open it up for any clarifying questions, and if there are other, if you get the urge to make a formal public comment, just let us know. Raise your hands, and we can note that.

Are there other clarifying questions that people would like to make on, that you had, about the presentation. We can go back to a slide if you found a slide confusing. You really want to see the video again, even though we put the link in the chat to the video, so you can watch it on your own. But sometimes it's fun to have a viewing session. We'll show the video at the June 3rd meeting, too, from that space as well. Any clarifying questions? And take your time thinking about them.

And also, Kira, if there's anything you want to add to any of the questions that were asked previously. Or if you want to call on anyone else on the team to add anything, feel free to do that too. I can remind you of those questions if that's helpful.

01:45:14 – Kira Lynch

I don't have anything to add necessarily, Laura. But, you know, if what we're waiting to see is if anybody has any other questions. I did want to just highlight, once again, that we really appreciate, there's been a lot of hard work that has gone into evaluating and what the options are here, and we've clearly selected a very comprehensive plan for this site itself. But, like I said, we went back and looked at all the other cleanups that we've selected in Region Ten, and when you look at the relative percentage of area of the total site, and how much of this site is being proposed for dredging. This is, by far, one of the most comprehensive, immediate, cleanups given that when you look at the toolbox of things that we have to try to clean up sediment sites being, dredging and capping, and some sort of amendment, and then relying on monitored natural recovery. This, by far, has the largest percentage of cleanup that is going to be directly removing the contamination from the waterway itself. So, I think this is going to make a huge difference in helping us cleanup this watershed, and really do what all of us want to do, which is to try to clean this up as much as possible, so that we can reduce reliance on fishing advisories in this area.

01:47:01 – Laura Knudsen

Updated: June 7, 2023

Thank you, Kira. There is a clarifying question from Kim in the in the chat, how do you anticipate how the Lower Reach cleanup of the Lower Duwamish Waterway and the East Waterway cleanup will interface timewise.

01:47:28 – Kira Lynch

So that's something that we will be looking at very closely as we proceed with design for the East Waterway. It is important to point out, there are things that we can be doing as we're working on the cleanup of the Lower Duwamish Waterway, that our best management practices to be able to ensure that the cleanup work that's happening in that area would not be re-contaminating cleanup work that we may have already completed in the East Waterway.

So things, like silk fences and other things, that can be applied while that cleanup is going forward, are all things that will be a very important part of the cleanup for the Lower Duwamish Waterway, and it's something that we look at for all sediment cleanups.

But definitely, we will be looking at closely kind of the process for how the Lower Duwamish Waterway cleanup is proceeding, and how we integrate the cleanup activities between the two different Superfund Sites.

01:48:42 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you for that great question, (b) and if you already asked a clarifying question, and you want a little more clarity than the answer we gave, just, you know, feel free to raise your hand in the virtual space or press * 9.

If you're on the phone or feel free to write in the chat, maybe your question wasn't completely answered and you like a little more, a little more meat, in the answer, we'd be happy to do that.

These are great, very clarifying questions, and thank you for all the public comments. I know some folks have dropped off, but we still have quite a few people remaining, so thank you for being in there, and if you don't have any other questions or if you don't want to make any formal public comments this evening. If you want to want to write that in the chat, if you feel pretty satisfied.

Also, if you have any feedback, you know that you would like to provide on this public meeting, feel free to write that in the chat too, or you can let us know right now. Or you can let me know, call me or, you know, email me. I love getting critical feedback, constructive feedback.

But if you don't have any other questions, feel free to write that in the chat too, and we'll know that maybe things are winding down a little bit. Otherwise, we are happy to keep this public meeting going. We can answer anything you would like. We can go back to any slide you would like, and talk a little more about it. If you'd like to spend a little more time looking at it in the meeting environment, even though the slides have been sent out and translated.

Thank you. Thank you for the thank you. Thank you all so much.

01:51:06 – Kira Lynch

Updated: June 7, 2023

Yeah. So, Laura, I think that was a really good comment too, and I would encourage people, especially since we have another public meeting coming back, if there's any feedback that you have on tonight about ways that we could improve the information that we've shared. We'd be very interested in getting that feedback, so that we can incorporate it as we plan for our next public meeting.

01:51:32 – Laura Knudsen

Thank you, Kira. That's a great point.

A good example of that, you know, is the video, too, because we and the questions in those Ravi mentioned in there that week, which is unusual. We don't normally have a week between when we release a Proposed Plan and when we start a public comment period, but that was open to meeting, you know, with interested community members. And so, we got some, some of those, questions were received at those information sessions, and also, we got some feedback on that video that we were able to take and make it into a better video thanks to all of feedback. So, thank you all for that. So additional feedback is always welcome, we can always improve. So, thank you for anything we really do want to take it and work on it.

It looks like, it looks like, things are winding down. So, hearing no other things in the chat or hands raised, I think we're going to go ahead and conclude this public meeting, but one more chance of anyone would like to make a formal public comment before close. Anyone?

01:52:49 – Jean Balent

Laura, it does look as though a question just came into the chat.

01:52:53 – Laura Knudsen

Okay, great. So, we have, oh and we have someone in the waiting room as well. So, I know, I also want to mention, we have someone who just joined the meeting. If you would like to make a formal public comment, we will tell you how to do that in a moment, but before that there is a question that we have a clarifying question in the chat.

Kira, two areas are planned for capping and partial removal, why are those areas being capped instead of dredged completely?

01:53:30 – Kira Lynch

You know, I think the simple area, the simple answer for that is that there's limitations based on where those areas are on getting the dredge equipment in there. But I'm going to also pass this over to Ravi, who is much more involved in the feasibility study discussions to give some more specifics on that.

01:53:53 – Ravi Sanga

Thanks, Kira, and thanks for the question, (b)(6)

So yeah, your question is, the two areas are planned for capping and partial removal, and why are those areas being capped instead of dredged completely?

So, the first area is near the mouth of Slip 27, and that area has hard substrate that we can't dredge. Although, it is very contaminated, we can take some of it off during the removal action. We actually took some material off in that area, and we put some gravelly substance down to prevent exposure to the aquatic environment.

So, the answer to your question is that the substrate is very, is hard, and it would be very difficult to dredge away. So, we're going to, again, do sampling and design, and see how much of that can we remove. Is it possible at all? If there's a possibility to remove part of it, the plan actually states its partial removal, or limited removal I like to say, and then capping with a hard substance for a substrate like geo text, well, first-rate geo textile and then putting armoring and then sand underneath that, and so on.

So, the other area, which is near Slip 36, that also is a harder substrate again, similar to the Slip 27 area, and it just isn't feasible to dredge that substrate. So, it would be, it would be a better idea to just cap those areas with a thick cap, thus preventing exposure from the contamination underneath to the aquatic environment.

So, I hope that answers your question.

01:56:08 – Laura Knudsen

Thanks, Ravi, and thanks for the question.

I know we have a couple folks who just joined and no pressure if you've been on for a while to stay, but we are continuing, so if you did just join, and you would like to make a formal oral public comment, we are here. You can raise your hands in the virtual space or, if you're on the phone, press * 9, and that will raise your hand in the virtual space if you're on the phone. So, if you would like to make a formal oral public comment and you just joined, feel free to do so.

Give everyone a moment, who just joined.

I'm not seeing any hands raised right now, so we'll go ahead and go back to the other slide, Meshach, the question slide. So, if anyone has any clarifying questions who just joined.

We did complete the presentation, but, Nina, if you wouldn't mind, please putting the English recording of the main slide content into the chat please. So, if you just joined and you maybe missed the main presentation, we have a recording for you in English, and tomorrow there will be Spanish, Khmer, and Vietnamese recordings as well. So, Nina will be sharing that in the chat, in a moment. For those of you who have just joined, you can review that material. Thank you, Nina.

Feel free to watch that. Nina also put in the chat, the link to the technology video because it was actually a separate addendum. As well that we share tonight, we'll share the June 3rd public meetings, so, again, you can put that technology video in the chat as well. That shows the technologies and how we're planning to, we're proposing in our preferred alternative to apply them, and in our Proposed Plan for cleaning up East Waterway. It's what we would you're your feedback on. Anything in the Proposed Plan. Any of the alternatives, including our preferred alternative, but that's what the video shows.

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And again, June 3rd, Saturday at the South Seattle College: Georgetown Campus, Building C, we are going to be having our second in-person public meeting, and you can drop in any time, 11am to 6pm. We're going to have the East Waterway Group, that was mentioned tonight, will be there in doing part of an open house where they'll be providing some information on the work that they did with EPA's oversight on the feasibility study and remedial investigations. We're really excited to have them there, and we will also have a part of the open house with some basic Superfund information, some family activities, so feel free to bring your family. And again, Saturday, June 3rd, second public meeting, in-person. Drop in any time, 11am to 6pm, and we'll have a quiet, kind of, library reading room/writing comments room as well.

And I think we'll give everyone one more chance. If there's any more questions, please raise your hands. Please put it in the chat, and we can ask, we can answer any clarifying questions. One more time, if you don't have any more, feel free to write, "no more questions" in the chat and we will call it a night.

Okay, not hearing any.

We are going to close tonight's meeting, so thank you all so much. Thank you, Jean, for putting a final note in the chat about how to provide public comments. The transcript of tonight's meeting will be put into our official record and available to everyone, so thank you. Thank you all so much for attending, providing clarifying questions, and submitting formal public comments. We look forward to seeing you on June 3rd, potentially, or receiving additional comments, or seeing you at some of our availability sessions.

Meshach, if you could go back to that slide with the availability sessions again. Just very briefly, we aren't taking oral comments at these. A little further back, Meshach. Little further back, little further, keep going. There you go, perfect. Thank you.

These are availability sessions where we will be available to answer your questions, clarifying questions, but not take oral public comments.

Yes, that is all we have. So, thank you all and have a great evening. Take care of yourselves and thank you all, all of you, for your hard work and we will talk to you soon. Thank you, goodnight. This concludes the live broadcast. Jean, you can stop recording. Thank you. Goodnight, everyone.

02:01:55 – Ravi Sanga

Thanks, everybody for coming. Goodnight.

Updated: June 7, 2023

Virtual Public Meeting on EPA's East Waterway Cleanup

May 25, 2023 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm PST

Zoom Chat Transcript

20:52:27 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Waiting Room Participants:

Welcome! The live event will begin at approximately 6:00 Pacific time. If you need any technical assistance, please feel free to send a message to the moderators here or contact Jean Balent at Balent.jean@epa.gov or 571 329 1385. Thank you!

20:56:12 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Waiting Room Participants:

Welcome! The live event will begin at approximately 6:00 Pacific time. If you need any technical assistance, please feel free to send a message to the moderators here or contact Jean Balent at Balent.jean@epa.gov or 571 329 1385. Thank you!

20:57:43 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Welcome! The live event will begin at approximately 6:00 Pacific time. If you need any technical assistance, please feel free to send a message to the moderators here or contact Jean Balent at Balent.jean@epa.gov or 571 329 1385. Thank you!

20:59:37 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Welcome to the new attendees! Thanks for joining us! If you need any technical assistance, please feel free to send a message here or contact Jean Balent at Balent.jean@epa.gov or 571 329 1385. Thank you!

21:02:23 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

English: <https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/10/100468505>

21:02:39 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

Spanish: <https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/10/100469548>

21:03:05 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

Vietnamese: <https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/10/100469549>

21:03:22 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

Khmer: <https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/10/100469550>

21:05:00 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

English Recording of EPA East Waterway Proposed Plan Presentation:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zuRLzz1XXM>

21:11:52 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Updated: June 7, 2023

Thanks for joining us! If you need any technical assistance, please feel free to send a message here or contact Jean Balent at Balent.jean@epa.gov or 571 329 1385. Thank you!

21:15:33 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

Full EPA East Waterway Proposed Plan: <https://semspub.epa.gov/work/10/100458793.pdf>

21:21:09 From Paulina Lopez DRCC to Everyone:

Thank you for acknowledging ONE RIVER

21:22:03 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Replying to "Thank you for acknow..."

Thank you, Paulina!

21:22:21 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Please feel free to put any clarifying questions about this East Waterway Proposed Plan presentation in the chat at any time, and we'll address them after the presentation. Thank you!

21:24:36 From Jamie Hearn, DRCC (she/her) to Everyone:

Is there a source control plan for EW? Will Ecology handle upland cleanup like on the LDW?

21:27:03 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Replying to "Is there a source co..."

Thank you for this question, Jamie! We are tracking it for the clarifying question portion.

21:34:53 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Welcome to the new attendees! If you need any technical assistance, you may send a message in the chat or contact Jean Balent at Balent.jean@epa.gov or 571 329 1385. Please feel free to put any clarifying questions about this East Waterway Proposed Plan presentation in the chat at any time, and we'll address them after the presentation. Thank you!

21:36:37 From Paulina Lopez DRCC to Everyone:

Could it be possible to have different cleanup alternatives in this EW superfund ?

21:39:20 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Replying to "Could it be possible..."

Thank you for this question, Paulina! We are tracking it for the clarifying question section!

21:43:22 From Jamie Hearn, DRCC (she/her) to Everyone:

If in-situ treatment is done under piers as opposed to driver assisted dredging, will that mean higher concentrations of toxins in fish tissue in the short term?

21:45:20 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Updated: June 7, 2023

EPA Technology Video for the East Waterway Proposed Plan:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eozRi9wFgpY>

21:46:04 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

EPA Technology Video for the East Waterway Proposed Plan:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eozRi9wFgpY>

21:46:09 From Paulina Lopez DRCC to Everyone:

Bravo ! Great video!

21:47:25 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Replying to "Bravo ! Great video!"

Thank you!

21:47:46 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Replying to "If in-situ treatment..."

We are tracking this question, Jamie! Thank you!

21:49:30 From (b) to Everyone:

What actions would EPA expect boaters to take to NOT disturb caps?

21:50:08 From Jamie Hearn, DRCC (she/her) to Everyone:

Will the CHA program be implemented for the EW too? What metrics are used to assess how effective institutional controls are?

21:52:05 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

English EPA East Waterway Proposed Plan Fact Sheet:
<https://semspub.epa.gov/work/10/100459781.pdf>

21:52:23 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

Spanish EPA East Waterway Proposed Plan Fact Sheet:
<https://semspub.epa.gov/work/10/100459787.pdf>

21:52:39 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

Vietnamese EPA East Waterway Proposed Plan Fact Sheet:
<https://semspub.epa.gov/work/10/100459788.pdf>

21:52:58 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

Khmer EPA East Waterway Proposed Plan Fact Sheet:
<https://semspub.epa.gov/work/10/100459786.pdf>

21:53:29 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

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Replying to "What actions would E..."

Thank you for this question, (b) We are tracking!

21:53:39 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

You may submit comments in writing by sending an email to EastWaterwayComments@epa.gov, mailing written comments to ATTN: East Waterway Proposed Plan c/o Laura Knudsen, U.S. EPA Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, Superfund Records Center, Mail Stop 17-C04-1, Seattle, WA 98101, leaving a Voicemail in any language by calling 206-553-6520, or by dropping off written comments at in person events. Comments are due by August 11, 2023.

21:54:26 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Replying to "Will the CHA program..."

Thank you for this question! We are tracking!

21:56:09 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Translated Comment Forms are also available on EPA's Harbor Island website in English
<https://www.epa.gov/wa/forms/east-waterway-proposed-plan-comment-form>

21:56:16 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Translated Comment Forms are also available on EPA's Harbor Island website In Spanish
<https://www.epa.gov/wa/forms/formulario-para-comentarios-sobre-el-plan-propuesto-para-la-fluvial-este>

21:56:22 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Translated Comment Forms are also available on EPA's Harbor Island website Vietnamese
<https://www.epa.gov/wa/forms/bieu-mau-dong-gop-y-kien-ve-ke-hoach-de-xuat-cho-duong-thuy-phia-dong>

21:56:30 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Translated Comment Forms are also available on EPA's Harbor Island website Khmer
<https://www.epa.gov/wa/forms/bieu-mau-dong-gop-y-kien-ve-ke-hoach-de-xuat-cho-duong-thuy-phia-dong>

22:00:25 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

EPA Harbor Island General Fact Sheet: <https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/10/100438615>

22:02:41 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Saturday, June 3 In-Person EPA Public Meeting at the South Seattle College, Georgetown Campus (Building C) at 6737 Corson Ave S! Drop in any time from 11am - 6pm with your family! Interpretation in Spanish, Vietnamese, Khmer will be available!

22:02:56 From Peter to Everyone:

Updated: June 7, 2023

How long will this clean up take? How much does it all cost?

22:04:43 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

If you would like to ask a question verbally, please raise your hand by using the hand raise button (found under the "reactions" or smiley face button or by pressing *9 on the phone lines. Please wait for a moderator to call on you to unmute.

22:06:30 From Derek Nanninga to Everyone:

I assume the communication channel is buried below sediment layers, is this correct? How often does the communication channel experience maintenance or new installations? Is the communication channel controlled by one or multiple entities?

22:07:59 From Paulina Lopez DRCC to Everyone:

Yes correct

22:09:32 From Paulina Lopez DRCC to Everyone:

Thank you Kira

22:10:17 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Thank you all for these great clarifying questions!

22:12:47 From (b) to Everyone:

Is the Source Control Plan you mentioned earlier available to the public?

22:12:58 From (b)(6) to Everyone:

On Slide 6, EPA notes the vision is to obtain the lowest contaminant levels possible in sediments. Can EPA clarify if this statement is for specific contaminants? According to the FS, cleanup alternatives can meet protective levels for most contaminants based on active remedy.

22:21:19 From (b)(6) to Everyone:

Would the roundtable will be a good venue to engage community with the one river approach?

22:23:51 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

If you would like to share a comment verbally, please raise your hand by using the hand raise button (found under the "reactions"/ smiley face button) or by pressing *9 on the phone lines. Please wait for a moderator to call on you to unmute.

22:25:11 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Anyone may also share oral comments by leaving a voicemail in any language by calling 206-553-6520.

22:25:36 From Paulina Lopez DRCC to Everyone:

Thank you for allowing different ways to do public comments

Updated: June 7, 2023

22:30:13 From *Laura Knudsen, EPA Moderator (she, her) to Everyone:

Replying to "Thank you for allowi..."

Thank you, (b)(6)

22:38:55 From Kamuron Gurol to Everyone:

Thanks for all these opportunities for comment

22:41:49 From (b) to Everyone:

Thank you for all the hard work.

22:41:58 From (b) to Everyone:

Quick question: How do you anticipate how the Lower Reach cleanup of the LDW and the East Waterway cleanup will interface, time-wise?

22:47:11 From (b)(6), DRCC (she/her) to Everyone:

Thank you for a great meeting!

22:47:19 From (b)(6) to Everyone:

Thank you for your work

22:48:55 From (b)(6) to Everyone:

I have a quick question. Two areas are planned for capping and partial removal. Why are those areas being capped instead of dredged completely? Thanks!

22:49:02 From Pete Rude City of Seattle to Everyone:

Great work. Thank you!

22:52:24 From (b)(6) to Everyone:

Thanks for the answers!

22:52:46 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

If you would like to share a comment verbally, please raise your hand by using the hand raise button (found under the "reactions"/ smiley face button) or by pressing *9 on the phone lines. Please wait for a moderator to call on you to unmute.

22:54:16 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

English Recording of EPA East Waterway Proposed Plan Presentation:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zuRLzz1XXM>

22:54:45 From *Nina Poppe to Everyone:

EPA Technology Video for the East Waterway Proposed Plan:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eozRi9wFgpY>

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22:56:43 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

Remember you may also submit comments in writing by sending an email to EastWaterwayComments@epa.gov; by mailing written comments to ATTN: East Waterway Proposed Plan c/o Laura Knudsen, U.S. EPA Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, Superfund Records Center, Mail Stop 17-C04-1, Seattle, WA 98101; by leaving a Voicemail in any language by calling 206-553-6520; or by dropping off written comments at in person events. Comments are due by August 11, 2023.

22:56:55 From Sarah Ogier (she/her), Port of Seattle to Everyone:

Thank you for this information and opportunity for comment.

22:57:06 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

This meeting is being recorded in English and a transcript will be posted to EPA's Harbor Island Superfund Site webpage. Spanish, Vietnamese, and Khmer pre-recordings of this presentation will also be available soon.

22:57:25 From *Technical Support: Jean Balent, USEPA to Everyone:

For the most updated information on the East Waterway Proposed Plan, please:

Visit www.epa.gov/superfund/harbor-island

Contact: Laura Knudsen, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator (knudsen.laura@epa.gov, 206-553-1838) or Ravi Sanga, EPA Remedial Project Manager (sanga.ravi@epa.gov or 206-432-2512)

22:57:33 From Kathy Bahnick (she/her) Port of Seattle to Everyone:

Thank You. Nice job.

22:57:52 From (b)(6) to Everyone:

Thanks EPA for the helpful presentation to help folks understand your proposal and especially Jean for the good online meeting